A. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system for use in the construction of a wall having an inner wythe and an outer wythe, said outer wythe formed from a plurality of successive courses with a bed joint between each two adjacent courses, said inner wythe and said outer wythe in a spaced apart relationship the one with the other forming a cavity therebetween, said inner wythe having an exterior layer selected from a group consisting of insulation, wallboard, and insulation and wallboard, said surface-mounted anchoring system comprising:

a wall anchor constructed from a plate-like body having two major faces being the mounting surface and the outer surface, said wall anchor, in turn, comprising;

a pair of legs, each extending from said mounting surface of said plate-like body from an inboard location thereof with the longitudinal axis of each of said legs being substantially normal to said mounting surface and having a channel along said axis adapted for sheathing mounting hardware, said legs adapted for insertion at a predetermined insertion point into said exterior layer of said inner wythe;

a covering portion formed at said mounting surface of said plate-like body, said covering portion adapted to

preclude penetration of air, moisture and water vapor into said exterior layer;

an apertured receptor portion adjacent said outer surface of said plate-like body, said apertured receptor portion adapted to limit displacement of said outer wythe toward and away from said inner wythe;

at least one strengthening rib impressed in said plate-like body parallel to said apertured receptor portion; and,

a veneer tie threadedly disposed through said apertured receptor portion of said wall anchor and adapted for embedment in said bed joint of said outer wythe to prevent disengagement from said anchoring system.

2. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 1, wherein said wall anchor strengthened by at least one strengthening rib is constructed to meet a 100 lbf. tension and compression rating.

3. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 2, wherein said exterior layer is insulation, each said insertion point in said insulation adapted to accommodate one of said legs and the associated mounting hardware.

4. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system described in Claim 3, wherein each said strengthening rib is impressed to depend from said mounting surface and adapted, upon surface mounting of said wall anchor, to be pressed into said insulation of said inner wythe.

5. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 4, wherein said inner wythe is a dry-wall construct and wherein each of said pair of legs extending from said mounting surface of said plate-like body terminates in at least two points adapting said anchoring system for minimal thermal transfer between said inner wythe and said anchoring system.

6. **(Cancelled)**

7. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 2, wherein said anchoring system further comprises:

a reinforcement wire disposed in said bed joint; and, wherein said veneer tie further comprises:

an attachment portion for threading through said apertured receptor;

an insertion portion contiguous with and opposite said attachment portion, said insertion portion being swaged for interconnection with said reinforcement wire;

whereby, upon installation of said anchoring system with an interconnected reinforcing wire in said outer wythe, said system provides a high degree of seismic protection.

8. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 2, wherein said anchoring system further comprises:

sealant means for further sealing between said plate-like body and said exterior layer.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 2, wherein each of said pair of legs is formed from a hollow tubular member extending with the longitudinal axis thereof substantially normal to said mounting surface of said plate-like body and adapted to sheathe said mounting hardware inserted therethrough.

10. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 9, wherein said anchoring system further comprises:

sealant means for further sealing between said mounting surface of said plate-like body and said exterior layer.

11. **(Original)** A surface-mounted anchoring system described in Claim 10, wherein said sealant means is adhered to said exterior layer prior to mounting said wall anchor thereon.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 11, wherein said sealant means is a coating on said covering portion of said plate-like body.

13. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system for use in the construction of a wall having an inner wythe and an outer wythe, said outer wythe formed from a plurality of successive courses with a bed joint between each two adjacent courses, said inner wythe and said outer wythe in a spaced apart relationship the one with the other forming a cavity therebetween, said inner wythe having an exterior layer selected from a group consisting of insulation, wallboard, and insulation and wallboard, said surface-mounted anchoring system comprising:

a wall anchor constructed from a plate-like body having two major faces being the mounting surface and the outer surface, said wall anchor, in turn, comprising;

a pair of legs, each extending from said mounting surface of said plate-like body from an inboard location thereof with the longitudinal axis of each of said legs being substantially normal to said mounting surface and having a channel along said axis adapted for sheathing mounting hardware, said legs adapted for insertion at a predetermined insertion point into said exterior layer of said inner wythe;

said pair of legs being formed by enfolding end portions of said plate-like body downwardly and inwardly for total bends of approximately 180° each, bending leg portions approximately 90° each to form said leg bases and said legs, forming said channels longitudinally in the bodies of said legs, and swaging said leg bases such that the outer surfaces of said leg bases are brought into a substantially coplanar relationship with said mounting surface of said plate-like body;

a covering portion formed at said mounting surface of said plate-like body, said covering portion formed from said mounting surface and said outer surfaces of said leg bases

and adapted to preclude penetration of air, moisture and water vapor into said exterior layer;

an apertured receptor portion adjacent said outer surface of said plate-like body, said apertured receptor portion adapted to limit displacement of said outer wythe toward and away from said inner wythe;

at least one strengthening rib impressed in said plate-like body parallel to said apertured receptor portion;

a veneer tie threadedly disposed through said apertured receptor portion of said wall anchor and adapted for embedment in said bed joint of said outer wythe to prevent disengagement from said anchoring system and,

whereby, upon surface mounting of said wall anchor, said covering portion of said plate-like body seals against the openings in said exterior layer of said inner wythe.

14. **Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 13, wherein said wall anchor strengthened by at least one strengthening rib is constructed to meet a 100 lbf. tension and compression rating.

15. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 14, wherein said exterior layer is insulation, each said insertion point in said insulation adapted to accommodate one of said legs and the associated mounting hardware.

16. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system described in Claim 15, wherein each said strengthening rib is impressed to depend from said mounting surface and adapted, upon surface mounting of said wall anchor, to be pressed into said insulation of said inner wythe.

17. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 16, wherein said inner wythe is a dry-wall construct and wherein each of said pair of legs at the end opposite said plate-like body terminates in at least two points adapting said anchoring system for minimal thermal transfer between said inner wythe and said anchoring system.

18. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 14, wherein said anchoring system further comprises:

a reinforcement wire disposed in said bed joint; and, wherein said veneer tie further comprises:

an attachment portion for threading through said apertured receptor;

an insertion portion contiguous with and opposite said attachment portion, said insertion portion being swaged for interconnection with said reinforcement wire;

whereby, upon installation of said anchoring system with an interconnected reinforcing wire in said outer wythe, said system provides a high degree of seismic protection.

19. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-mounted anchoring system as described in Claim 14, wherein said anchoring system further comprises:

sealant means for further sealing between said plate-like body and said exterior layer.

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

[062] **(Currently Amended)** At intervals along a horizontal line on surface 24, the folded wall anchors 40 are surface-mounted. In this structure, channels ~~27~~47 sheathe the exterior of mounting hardware 48. The folded wall anchors 40 are positioned on surface 24 so that the longitudinal axis of a column 17 lies within the yz-plane formed by the longitudinal axes 50 and 52 of upper leg 54 and lower leg 56, respectively. The legs 54 and 56 are folded and swaged, as best shown in FIG. 2, so that the base surface 58 of the leg portions and the base surface 60 of the bail portion 62 are substantially coplanar and, when installed, lie in an xy-plane. ~~A typical series of metalworking steps to produce the finished inboard legs 54 and 56 would include stamping of the basic flat shape, swaging the channels 47, folding the 90° bend between the legs 54 and 56 and the leg bases 58, folding the 180° bend between the leg bases 58 and the base surface 60, and swaging the leg bases 58 and base surface 60 into a substantially coplanar form.~~ Upon insertion in insulation 26, the leg bases 58 and base surface 60 rest snugly against the opening formed thereby and serves to cover the opening precluding the passage of air and moisture therethrough. This construct maintains the insulation integrity.

[068] (Currently amended) For purposes of discussion, the cavity surface 124 of the inner wythe 114 contains a horizontal line or x-axis 134 and an intersecting vertical line or y-axis 136. A horizontal line or z-axis 138, normal to the xy-plane, passes through the coordinate origin formed by the intersecting x- and y-axes. A wall anchor 140 is shown which has a pair of tubular legs ~~142~~ 154 and 156 which penetrate the insulation 126 and the wallboard 116. Wall anchor 140 is a stamped metal construct which is constructed for surface mounting on inner wythe 114 and for interconnection with veneer tie 144 which, in turn, receives reinforcement 146 therewithin.

[082.1] **(Deleted)** ~~In all three embodiments of the wall anchor disclosed herein, an additional advantage of the inboard legs has been found to be less installation-related damage to the insulation covering the inner wythe. The frequent occurrence of an arcuate path of installation with wall anchors having outboard legs does not occur in practice with wall anchors having inboard legs, thus resulting in inherently less gapping of insulation and less opportunity for infiltration of air and moisture.~~